

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Public Affairs Division/OEXA *2/22*

FROM: EA/DDCI

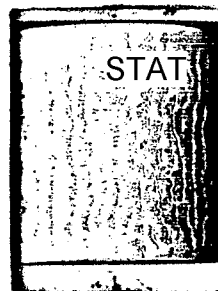


Would you please look at the attached and do whatever is necessary to provide a recommendation, along with a draft response, for the DDCI.

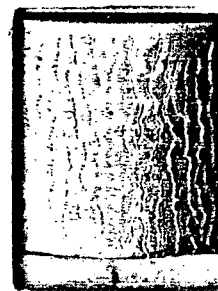
*Thank,*



Date 16 May 1983



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FORM 5-75 101 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

*P310*

*VF 1272*

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

MEMORANDUM

Executive Registry

83-2609

Dear John -

I'll be publishing  
part of my diary this fall,  
specifically, the years, 1972-77.

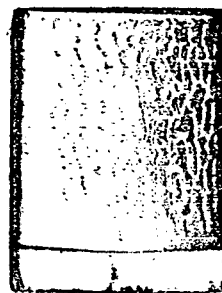
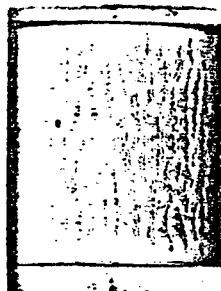
Enclosed are two entries from  
the 1973 period when the Yom  
Kippur War was fought. I  
would like to include this  
information from a CIA briefing  
by Dr. Colby. It does not  
strike me as sensitive in any

DCI  
EXEC  
REG

way, but I would be grate-  
ful if you would look at it  
and give me a green light.

Many thanks -

Bill Whitcomb



contemplation within 50 miles. I suppose I shouldn't make light of this whole business. The entire thing, after all, was born of tragedy. But the rumors that flew through the House today finally became absurd. Someone noted that former Secretary of State Bill Rogers and his wife will be the special guests of the Nixons at a White House dinner on Monday night, and so it had to be he. Someone else said that it was John Volpe, and Peggy Heckler was elated about that. Then word came out that the Mayor of Indianapolis was to be tapped. The latest centers on Lin Holton, our Governor, who I almost listed as a third choice in my letter to the President. About 4:00 this afternoon, a UPI man called for me in the Speaker's Lobby to ask me what I knew about a rumor that Secret Service men had been sent to fetch the Governor in Richmond. I replied that until he told me, I had heard no such rumor. I dismissed it at once. Subsequently, I saw Joel Broyhill, and he asked me if I was going to the White House tonight. I said that I had not been invited. He told me that the formula used for the invitations, since the entire Congress and Diplomatic Corps could not fit into the East Room, was to choose those Members who had been here for more than four terms, plus several other selected Members, including some freshmen. "That lets me out," I said, but when I returned to the office later I got a call from the White House inviting me to be present, and I accepted. Almost simultaneously with that, there was a call from Wayne Woodlief, who told me that he had definitive word that Lin Holton had been at Washington and Lee this afternoon for a ceremony, which several of us had been invited to attend, but couldn't, and Secret Service men had shown up to take him to Washington. If that's true, then it's the most substantive rumor I've heard all day. Lin would be a great choice, and I've no doubt that he would easily win confirmation by the Congress.

1923  
This morning I heard an interesting briefing on the Mideast War by Dr. Colby of the CIA. He told the Members of the Armed Services Committee that both sides had suffered heavily in the fighting, but that the Israelis now had the upper hand on the Syrian front, and while they had not destroyed the Syrian Army, they had mauled it badly and might finish it off in a few days. The Egyptians were being held on the Suez front, having penetrated for about 20 kilometers. He said that the original intention of the Egyptians was not to try to knock out Israel. They didn't expect to be able to do that. But they did believe that they could make some gains and win back some of the land lost in the 1967 war and then hope for Big Power intervention that would hasten a settlement. He discounted direct Russian involvement, but said that if things went really badly for the Arabs, the Russians would surely send advisers in to help. He also thought Jordan might lend a hand, even if they did not try to invade Israel directly. King Hussein, he noted, was under heavy pressure from his officers as well as from his people.

about Carl's Korean girl friend. "His what?" I asked. Then Charlie spoke up to confirm it and said that it was common knowledge. They all agreed that Carl didn't want to be President, and if he were chosen he would have a hell of a time coming through the public scrutiny that would follow.

1973

I went to a CIA-Defense Department briefing on the Middle East after my meeting in Al Quie's office and heard an especially clear and comprehensive analysis of the situation there. The cease-fire has broken down for the time being, but the consensus among the experts is that the Israelis have the upper hand on both fronts. The losses in men are about 4 to 1 against the Arabs, and the plane and tank losses of the Arabs have also been much heavier. Our witnesses were emphatic about the lack of involvement of US forces. We have no advisers in Israel, and our only personnel there are either to observe or to help with the air lift. We have replaced about a third of the Israeli air losses, and our total resupply, either through our own air lift or in combination with the Israelis, just about equals what the Soviets have flown in. Plenty of questions remain unanswered about the cease-fire. Both sides have attached conditions to it which could make a peaceful solution difficult.

On the Floor of the House today there were about an hour of one-minute speeches, most of them in denunciation of the President, with a few of our boys present to defend him. The Speaker wisely placed the issue in the hands of the Judiciary Committee, thus blunting the immediate attempt to impeach the President. The House then went on to the business of taking up a bill permitting the use of Health Maintenance Organizations in Champus. While that was under discussion, the wire services reported that the President had decided to release the Watergate tapes to the grand jury. It provoked the same kind of consternation that followed the news of Agnew's resignation. I saw a large group of Democrats huddling around the massive Tip O'Neill, his white head bent over as he talked rapidly to them. There were the usual jokes that are made at such a time. Charlie Vanik went up on the elevator with some Republicans, and one of them asked him what they were going to do now. "Impeach him for giving the tapes to Sirica," Vanik replied with a laugh. There's more truth than humor to that. Many of them would be pleased to get rid of the President, no matter what. Don Riegle got a Special Order this afternoon to demand that the President reinstate Cox so that the investigation could go forward. Don said that if the President did it and the evidence showed that he was innocent, Don would be "the first man in the Well of the House to congratulate him."

I came back to the office and gave several radio interviews to stations back home, giving my reaction to it all. I said that I was relieved that the President had sent